

medical education and joint research programs.

The Foot Clinics of New York is a fully staffed medical teaching/training facility with more than 50,000 annual patient visits who have benefited from the skill, dedication and quality of care provided by clinical faculty of the Foot Clinics.

As the College is celebrating the 90th year of its existence, I want to salute the New York College of Podiatric Medicine, the Foot Clinics of New York, its board of trustees, president, Louis Levine, faculty and staff and students on the occasion of this 90th anniversary year. The history of this outstanding educational institution truly has been marked by its distinguished graduates and by its traditions of academic excellence and service to the community. May it continue to carry on its proud tradition for many years to come.

#### REMEMBERING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues in observance of the 86th anniversary of the Armenian genocide and to celebrate the victory of the Armenian spirit over an oppressor bent on their extinction. But, Mr. Speaker, I also rise to remind my colleagues of our obligation to the Armenian people.

Before this House will be a bill to recognize the Armenian genocide, a bill that we, as Americans, as a people whose predecessors fought their own battle against an oppressive rule, have a responsibility to support.

Can we claim to have earned our passage into the 21st century if we fail to recognize the atrocities of the last century? Progress is not earned by merely flipping the pages of a calendar. Progress is achieved when we are unafraid of the truth—of seeing the past for what it was, and to stand guard: ensuring that this hate-filled violence will not happen again on our watch.

We owe this to the Armenians, but not just to the Armenians. We owe this to ourselves—and to our children. The generations that come after us will learn from us and use our actions as an example.

If the 21st century marks anything, it should be that the echoes of past tragedies will not dissolve into obscurity. That we recognize the earlier failures of mankind and strive against their repetition.

The Armenian people are no longer victims, but victors. It is our responsibility to see that their triumph is awarded its rightful place in our collective memory.

And it is in this spirit that I stand here and celebrate the enduring legacy of the Armenians. But only in recognizing the Armenian genocide do we earn the right to stand here and share in their triumph.

#### HONORING THE EUREKA LODGE OF ELKS' 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Elks Lodge of Eureka in Humboldt County, California.

Formed in 1901, the Eureka Lodge of Elks joined the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States which was established in 1868, and since its inception has grown to more than one million members nationwide. The Elks is one of the largest and most active fraternal organizations in the world.

Through scholarship programs and charitable aid, members give generously of their time to support the youth of the region, providing countless hours of service for the betterment of the community. Local members sponsor Girl Scout and Boy Scout groups, youth soccer programs, and services for veterans. They also help to fund medical aid to disabled children in rural areas through mobile units staffed with trained therapists. Eureka members assisted in the establishment of the Humboldt-Del Norte Blood Bank, a vital asset to the North Coast of California. In May of this year, the Eureka Lodge will dedicate a memorial to all veterans of our armed forces.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor the members of the Eureka Lodge of Elks by acknowledging their dedication and recognizing the value of their efforts for our country.

#### INDIAN HEALTH CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT

#### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today we are introducing legislation to reauthorize and amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA)—the keystone federal law that directs the delivery of health services to American Indian and Alaska Native people.

This bill is based largely upon recommendations made by the Indian health community—including tribal leaders, tribal health directors, health care experts, Native patients themselves, and the Indian Health Service. Its primary objective is to improve access to quality medical care for this population.

The basic framework of the IHCIA is retained, including its provisions that target diseases for which Indian Country shows an astonishingly high rate—such as diabetes, tuberculosis, infant mortality, and substance abuse. The major revisions come in the following areas: Greater role for tribes in health care delivery, including local priority-setting. Authorization for a national certified Community Health Aide Program to supply medical care in under-served, remote areas. Innovative options for funding of Indian health facilities. Strengthening health programs that serve Indian people in urban areas. Consolidation of

substance abuse, mental health and social service programs into a holistic system for behavioral health services.

While there have certainly been improvements in the health status of Indian and Alaska Native people in the past two decades, Native people still suffer death rates from some diseases at rates many times higher than the national population. The Indian health care network is the primary source of medical care for over 1.3 million American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Indian Health Service administers this comprehensive health care network largely in partnership with Indian tribes themselves who have assumed an increasingly greater role in operating health programs vital to the well-being of their members.

The IHCIA was first enacted in 1976 to present a more organized and comprehensive approach to the delivery of medical care to Indian people, most of whom live in isolated, sparsely-populated and under-served areas of our country. Subsequent reauthorization, has amended the Act to reflect advancements in health care delivery, respond to the desire of tribes for greater responsibility of programs, and to target the high incidence of certain diseases that have plagued this segment of the American population.

I plan to work with my Republican colleagues to ensure that this bill is a high priority for the House Committee on Resources, which should expedite consideration of this measure. It is my hope that Congress will have wisdom and courage to enact this important legislation this year.

#### INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 1, 2001*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my strong support for the United Nations' International Labor Organization (ILO) Worldwide Workers' Rights public awareness poster campaign. The goal of this initiative is not only to make people aware of the shameful atrocities workers suffer around the world, but to say that all workers have basic, fundamental rights. The right to form a union, bargain collectively, work free of discrimination, refuse forced labor, and to reject child labor. These moral and humane worker rights should and must be honored both in the job field and during international trade and other agreements. We cannot look the other way when these issues come before us.

I would like to ask my colleagues how they would feel if their family, loved ones, and children were forced to work under conditions where basic labor and human rights were eroded by the lack of enforceable labor protections. Unfortunately, the ILO estimates that about 250 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 are in the workforce, half of which are employed full-time, often in dangerous industries. During hearings I held as Chairman of the House Subcommittee on International Relations and Human Rights in previous sessions of Congress it became obvious that children often labor under unsafe conditions. These young people frequently go to work in dangerous factories or mines, not to mention